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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/847,244	05/01/2001	Melissa D. Beebe	M-9898 US	9206
33438	7590	02/16/2005	EXAMINER	
HAMILTON & TERRILE, LLP P.O. BOX 203518 AUSTIN, TX 78720			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 02/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

 <b>Communication Re: Appeal</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/847,244	BEEBE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Elaine Gort	3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1.  The Notice of Appeal filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is not acceptable because:
  - (a)  it was not timely filed.
  - (b)  the statutory fee for filing the appeal was not submitted. See 37 CFR 41.20(b)(1).
  - (c)  the appeal fee received on \_\_\_\_\_ was not timely filed.
  - (d)  the submitted fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is insufficient. The appeal fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(1) is \$\_\_\_\_\_.
  - (e)  the appeal is not in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31(a)(1) in that no claim has been twice rejected.
  - (f)  a Notice of Allowability, PTO-37, was mailed by the Office on \_\_\_\_\_.
2.  The appeal brief filed on 12/2/04 is NOT acceptable for the reason(s) indicated below: *Attached*
  - (a)  the brief and/or brief fee is untimely. See 37 CFR 41.37(a).
  - (b)  the statutory fee for filing the brief has not been submitted. See 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2).
  - (c)  the submitted brief fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is insufficient. The brief fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2) is \$\_\_\_\_\_.

**The appeal in this application will be dismissed unless corrective action is taken to timely submit the brief and requisite fee. See 37 CFR 41.37(a)(1). Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). See 37 CFR 41.37(e).**
3.  The appeal in this application is DISMISSED because:
  - (a)  the statutory fee for filing the brief as required under 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2) was not timely submitted and the period for obtaining an extension of time to file the brief under 37 CFR 1.136(a) has expired.
  - (b)  the brief was not timely filed and the period for obtaining an extension of time to file the brief under 37 CFR 1.136(a) has expired.
  - (c)  a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (d)  other: \_\_\_\_\_.
4.  Because of the dismissal of the appeal, this application:
  - (a)  is abandoned because there are no allowed claims.
  - (b)  is before the examiner for final disposition because it contains allowed claims. Prosecution on the merits remains CLOSED.
  - (c)  is before the examiner for consideration.

APPEAL BRIEF DEFECTIVE

1. The appeal brief is held non-responsive as the Applicant has neither "distinctly" nor "specifically" pointed out the Examiner's supposed errors as required by 37 CFR 1.111(b). The applicant has merely stated that the Examiner has not shown any of the claimed elements. Their arguments simply recite the entire claim back and do not discuss how the Examiner has applied the reference at all. Rule 37 CFR 1.111(b) states "The reply by the applicant or patent owner must ... distinctly and specifically point[] out the supposed errors in the examiner's action ...."
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elaine Gort whose telephone number is (703)308-6391. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski, can be reached at (703)308-5183. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or processing is assigned is (703)872-9326.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1113.



Elaine Gort  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3627

February 15, 2005



ROBERT P. OLSZEWSKI  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600  
2/14/05